

REMARKS

Claims 26 to 44 are pending in the application. Paragraph 1 of the Office Action rejects claims 26 – 28, 30 and 38 - 39 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by German Patent Application No. DE3,630,324 to Klein. Paragraph 2 of the Office Action rejects claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klein in view of German Patent No. DE3,630,324 to Langenfeld in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,646,630 to Russell. Paragraph 3 of the Office Action rejects claims 31 and 36 – 37 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klein in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,634,052 to Hanson. Paragraph 4 of the Office Action rejects claims 32 - 35 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klein in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,554,497 to Zipper. Paragraph 5 of the Office Action rejects claim 40 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klein in view of U.S. Patent No. 1,357,869 to Howard. Paragraph 6 of the Office Action rejects claim 41 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klein in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,630,324 to North. Finally, paragraph 10 of the Office Action indicates that claims 42 and 44 are allowable.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the brief telephonic interview regarding claims 26 – 44. In view of Applicant's claim amendments herewith, the discussions in the telephonic interview are rendered moot.

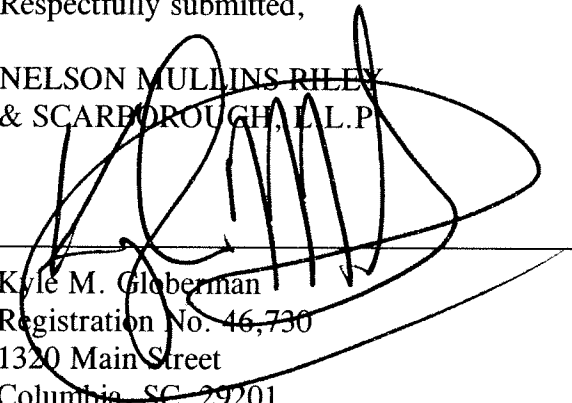
In an effort to move this case to allowance, Applicant has cancelled claims 1 – 27 and 29 – 30 and amended the various other dependent claims to depend either from independent claim 43 or 44.

CONCLUSION

For at least the above reasons, independent claims 42 - 44 are allowable over the cited prior art references. Dependent claims 28 - 41 directly or indirectly depend from independent claims 43 or 44. These dependent claims recite further limitations and are allowable in their respective combinations. Favorable action and withdrawal of the present rejections and objections is, therefore, respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at his convenience to resolve any remaining issues. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1196.

Respectfully submitted,

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